

REMARKS

Claims Objections

The Examiner has objected to claim 32 under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of the previous claim.

Claim 32 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Claim 32 now properly depends from claim 28.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection

Kasamatsu et al.

The Examiner rejected claims 24-25, 27-29, 31-35, 37-39 and 41-42 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by the patent Kasamatsu et al. (6,288,833).

The patent to Kasamatsu does not disclose light sources that emit light into said waveguide in a direction substantially transverse to a direction of propagation of the optical signal as recited in claims 24, 28, 33, and 39 as currently amended herein and including their respective dependent claims. Furthermore, the patent to Kasamatsu does not disclose that such light is perpendicular to a direction of propagation of the optical signal through the waveguide as recited in new claims 43-45 and in claim 35 as currently amended herein. It is believed the amendments overcome the rejection.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Kasamatsu et al. v. Lange et al.

The Examiner rejected claims 26, 30, 36 and 40 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kasamatsu et al. (6,288,833) in view of Lange et al. (6,594,420).

As discussed with respect to the § 102 rejection, above, neither Kasamatsu nor Lange discloses that the pumping light is emitted in a direction that is substantially transverse or that is perpendicular to a direction of propagation of the optical signal through the waveguide. Such an arrangement is apparent from a comparison of FIG. 4 of the present application with FIG. 5 of Kasamatsu and with FIG. 10 of Lange:

Thus, as can be seen from a comparison of said figures, waveguides 21 of FIG. 5 of Kasamatsu and arrow 87 of FIG. 10 of Lange, such emitted light is neither substantially transverse nor perpendicular to a direction of propagation of the optical signal, unlike pumping light beam 160 of FIG. 4 of the present application. It is therefore believed the rejection is overcome.

Conclusion

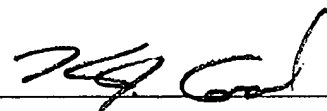
In light of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the claims is hereby earnestly requested.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney, Kenneth J. Cool, at (720) 227-9445 if there remains any issue with allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
INTEL CORPORATION

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Kenneth J. Cool
Reg. No. 40,570

Kenneth J. Cool
Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman, LLP
12400 Wilshire Boulevard, 7th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
Tel: (720) 227-9445
Fax: (720) 249-2506

FIG. 4

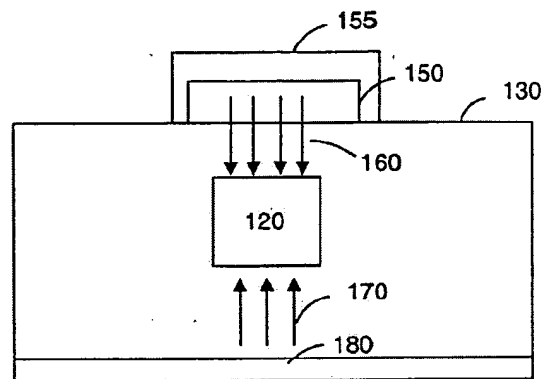


FIG. 5

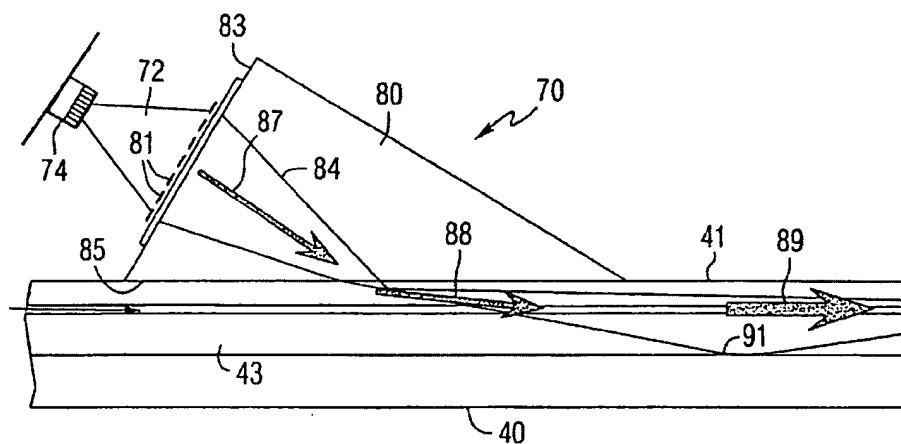
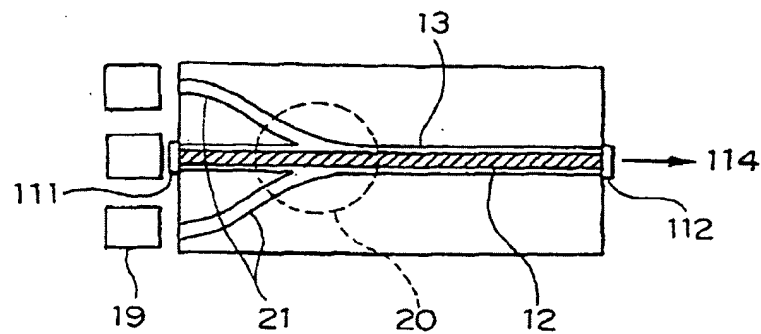


FIG. 10